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CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Yugoslav Fortification of North Adriatic Islands

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Fortification of Vis Island was begun during 1949 and 1950. Although little armament has been brought to the island to date, there has been intensive work on gun positions and underground storage rooms. Deep wells have been dug for storing rain water. It is necessary to obtain special permission to visit the island and certain areas are out of bounds to all visitors.
2. New fortifications are currently being built on Brioni Island, although considerable work was done on fortifications two or three years ago. Several positions for anti-aircraft guns have been built within the past six months and coastal gun positions have been improved. Underground passageways are being dug in the rock, and reservoirs for storing water are being constructed in the event the aqueduct from the mainland is damaged. When Tito is not residing there, the island is under the command of a naval captain, a resident of Gallesano near Pola.
3. No new fortifications have been built on Cres Island in the past year but the Yugoslavs are working on a plan to supply the island with fresh water. It is the same project as the one drawn up in 1939 by the Consorzio Istriano under Italian rule. The plan was to pipe water to the island from the Fingente aqueduct but the Yugoslavs are having difficulty in obtaining electrical pumps. In order to make use of the pumps currently available, they propose to increase the island's electrical supply. The project is scheduled for completion in 1950.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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